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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,662	11/29/2001	Robert Harold Bateman	DEH009	2640
7590	02/15/2005		EXAMINER	
DIEDERIKS & WHITELAW, PLC				KALIVODA, CHRISTOPHER M
#301 12471 Dillingham Square Woodbridge, VA 22192				ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER
				2881

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/995662

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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020705

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Commissioner for Patents**Information Disclosure Statement**

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 07/07/2004 was filed after the mailing date of the Allowance on 05/25/2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner. It was forwarded to Examiner on 02/07/2005.

Both references in the above cited IDS, taken as a whole, are not deemed to read on the claims. The two cited references will be addressed separately to show what feature(s) is/are lacking with respect to each independent claim and the specific reference.

Regarding independent claims 1, 24, and 27 Guan et al., is silent with respect to a mass spectrometer/method of mass spectrometry comprising an input vacuum chamber with an AC ion guide comprising a plurality of electrodes having apertures, at least one differential pumping apertured electrode through which ions may pass as well as the input vacuum chamber pressures.

Regarding independent claims 33 and 60, Guan et al., is silent with respect to a mass spectrometer/method of mass spectrometry comprising an input vacuum chamber with an AC ion guide comprising a plurality of electrodes having apertures and at least one differential pumping apertured electrode through which ions may pass.

Regarding independent claims 1, 24, 27 Belov et al., is silent with respect to a mass spectrometer/method of mass spectrometry comprising at least one AC ion guide comprising a plurality of electrodes having apertures wherein at least 90 percent of the apertures are the same size and at least 90 percent of the electrodes are connected to an AC generator.

Regarding independent claims 33 and 60, Belov et al. is silent with respect to a mass spectrometer/method of mass spectrometry comprising an input chamber with an AC ion guide comprising interleaved comb arrangements, each comb arrangement comprising a plurality of electrodes having apertures.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Kalivoda whose telephone number is (571) 272-2476. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:30 - 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


NIKITA WELLS
PRIMARY EXAMINER 02/14/05